

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7312

S E C R E T MOSCOW 4458

EXDIS

SECTO 38

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, UR

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS ON SA-7'S

1. WITH SECRETARY'S APPROVAL , ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN RAISED SA-7 ISSUE WITH DIRECTOR OF USA DIVISION OF SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY KORNIYENKO, MARCH 27. HARTMAN SAID WE ARE VERY CONCERNED AT THE SPREAD OF THESE WEAPONS. DESPITE ANY AGREEMENTS SOVIETS MAY HAVE CONCLUDED WITH SA-7 RECIPIENTS PRECLUDING FURTHER LATERAL DISTRIBUTION, WE HAVE EVIDENCE THAT THESE MISSILES ARE IN FACT REACHING OTHER HANDS. HARTMAN SAID US GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THIS A VERY DANGEROUS AND SERIOUS PROBLEM. WE WANT SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO BE AWARE OF OUR STRONG VIEWS ON THIS MATTER AND TO TAKE SOME ACTION TO PREVENT DISPERSAL OF THIS TYPE OF WEAPON THAT COULD BE USED AT ANY TIME AGAINST CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT.

2. IN RESPONSE TO KORNIYENKO'S ASSERTION THAT US HAD ALSO PROVIDED REDEYES TO THIRD PARTIES, HARTMAN NOTED THAT WE HAD BEEN VERY CAUTIOUS IN OUR DISSEMINATION POLICY AND WERE UNAWARE OF ANY CASES WHERE SUCH WEAPONS WERE UNACCOUNTED FOR. KORNIYENKO ASKED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE "ALERT" AT LONDON'S HEATHROW AIRPORT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND WAS TOLD WE HAD CAREFULLY INVESTIGATED THIS "INCIDENT" AND HAD FOUND NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY US REDEYES WERE MISSING.

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3. KORNIYENKO REITERATED STANDARD CLAIM THAT SOVIETS HAVE

FIRM AGREEMENTS WITH SA-7 RECIPIENTS PROVIDING THAT THESE WEAPONS ARE NOT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER PARTIES. HARTMAN AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT WE HAVE KNOWLEDGE THAT SUCH TRANSFERS ARE IN FACT TAKING PLACE. IN RESPONSE TO KORNIYENKO'S QUESTION, HARTMAN CONFIRMED THAT WE HAVE EVIDENCE SUBSEQUENT TO THE ROME AIRPORT INCIDENT IN SEPTEMBER 1973 INDICATING THAT SA-7'S ARE CONTINUING TO REACH OTHER HANDS AS WELL. CONVERSATION ON THIS TOPIC ENDED WITH KORNIYENKO AGREEING TO LOOK INTO MATTER.
KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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